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RICHARD H. SYLVESTER, - Editor

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 19, 1887.

RECRUITMENT WITH CANADA.

The bill recently introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Butterworth of Ohio, relative to the establishment of reciprocal commercial relations between the United States and Canada, is one of the very best measures that has been submitted to Congress this session. In view of the retaliatory and belligerent legislation which is now pending, and which is calculated rather to estrange two countries that ought on all accounts be united by close bonds of union, than to bring about a fair and satisfactory settlement of the difficulties that now divide them, this bill of Mr. Butterworth's is a valuable olive branch of peace.

SECRETARY WHITNEY, like the Secretary, has a tenacious and forceful way of expressing himself, as illustrated in his recent communication to the House Naval Committee, concerning repairs on the Hartford, Keasarge and other dismasted craft, ironically included in our catalogue of ships of war. He says: "It is lamentable that we should be obliged to spend money upon implements of war which have no real value, except in time of peace; but such seems to be the necessity at the present time." But he economically suggests that \$200,000 will be enough to keep them afloat for the present. Mr. Whitney has shown, in various ways, a sagacious comprehension of the needs and interests of his department, and we doubt if it would be judicious, in making any new Cabinet deal, to transfer the Secretary from a position which he has successfully demonstrated his capacity to fill.

The elements appear to have been on a general jamboree for the last day or two, from the far West all along the line to New York, winding up with a thunder-storm in Maryland, of which the distant flashes were visible in Washington last evening. It is a riotous combination which the new Clef Signal Officer is called upon to meet, but Major Greely is not a man to be dismayed by emergencies.

THE CRITIC hopes it may be true that Minister Pendleton is not going back to Germany. He is too capable and brilliant a man to be wasting his time abroad discussing the American flag with Prince Bismarck. There is an impending vacancy in the Cabinet which no man in the country is adapted to fill with more credit to the Administration or acceptability to the people.

The Toronto *Mail*, which warmly espouses Mr. Butterworth's bill, says upon this point:

"Without doubt, reciprocal free trade with the United States would result in the weeding out of some of the industries which the tariff of 1882 has called into existence, and the men whose money lies in these must be expected to protest that the whole country would be ruined. But no one can seriously suppose that the result would be otherwise than most beneficial to the two peoples. If a few industries perished in the transatlantic, those Canadian industries which deserve to survive would receive an impetus such as no local juggling could ever give them. The result would be that our three nations—France, America, and Britain—would lead the world in the peaceful and the democratic development of our mutual resources."

The *Mail* considers the introduction of this measure by so pronounced a Republican as Mr. Butterworth, and its approval by so pronounced a Democrat and distinguished an official as Secretary Bayard, a "very hopeful sign."

NOTES AND Gossip.

Mrs. ELIA WHEELER WILSON, the poet, will sail for Cuba February 25, accompanied by her husband.

MR. C. B. IVES of Connecticut, an American sculptor who has painted many statues, has returned to New York.

Mrs. KATE FIELD is lecturing in Ohio to large audiences and with great success. Next week she appears in Indianapolis and Thomas W. Knox.

The aggregate amount of fares collected by the street railroad companies of Philadelphia during the past year was \$7,712,379, or an average of \$18,439 a day. It is further computed that the 200,000 families in the city spend an average each year of \$300 in street car travel.

THE BOSTON GLOBE has returned of the Presidential preferences of 74 of the 97 Democrats in the Massachusetts Legislature. The vote for Mr. Cleveland, 43 for Hill and 30 for others, is given. The Republican members, 50 are for Blaine, 16 for Sherman, 7 for Hawley, 2 for all others, and 27 with no choice.

AWAY.

I cannot say, and I will not say. That is dead. It is just away!

With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand he was hastened into an unknown land; And left us dreaming how very fair, It needs much, if ever, to impress there.

And you—oh, you, who the wildest years
For the old-time step and the glad return,
Think of him, longing, as we dear
In the love of them as the love of home;

And still, as he gave the blow
Of his warrior strength to his country's fame,
Mild and gentle as he was brave—

When the sweetest love of life lay given
To simple things! Where the violets grew
True as the eyes they were blushed.

The touches of his hands have stayed,
As reverently as life have prayed—

When the little brown-throated hawk had
Clung to him as the nestling bird;

And he pitied as much as a man in pain—

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